IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Liang Che Wang
KOJIRO KATAYAMA ET AL.)	
	:	Art Unit: 2155
Application No.: 09/987,486)	
	:	Conf. No. 7223
Filed: November 15, 2001)	
	:	
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING)	
APPARATUS, MANAGEMENT	:	
CONTROL METHOD,)	
COMPUTER PROGRAM AND	:	
MEMORY MEDIUM)	August 1, 2006

Mail Stop: RCE

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to continued examination on the merits, a Request for Continued Examination being filed herewith, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner amend the above-identified application as follows. The changes to the claims are reflected in the listing that begins on page 2, and the Remarks begin on page 20.